

INFORMATION REPORT

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50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 31 JUL 50

SUBJECT Production at the Leunawerke

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1. Since January 1950, the monthly production of gasoline through hydrogenation of tar ranged between 8 and 9,000 tons. It was not possible to maintain the planned monthly production of 16,000 tons because of insufficient stocks of tar. All gasoline produced is delivered to the Russians.
2. Since the gasoline production was resumed at Leuna, only automobile gasoline has been produced. No aviation fuel has been made. During the first six months, the octane count of the gasoline was 78; because of the inferior quality of the tar during the later months, the count dropped to 62 in early 1950. This is the present quality of the gasoline produced.
3. Leuna originally had 4 chambers (Kammern) consisting of a total of 16 ovens for soft-coal hydrogenation. These ovens were partly dismantled. Plans had been recently completed to rebuild one chamber (consisting of 4 ovens) for the production of gasoline from soft coal. The approximate monthly capacity will be 5,000 tons. Reconstruction should be completed by the end of April 1950. Production is expected to start in early May 1950.
4. The planned production of nitrogen for 1950 is 170-180,000 tons. Up to the end of March 1950, daily production of nitrogen ranged between 6 and 700 tons and was therefore up to schedule. Nearly all the nitrogen produced is turned into ammonium sulphate for the production of fertilizers at Leuna. About 12,000 tons of nitrogen per year continue to be sent to Wolfen.
5. Other Production
 - a. Methanol. Planned production for 1950: 20,000 tons.
 - b. Higher alcohols. Planned production for 1950: approximately 25,000 tons.
 - c. Adipinic acid. Production during the first three months of 1950 was 50 tons per month; the entire output is used for the production of "Kaurit" glues.
 - d. Caprolactam (intermediary for Perlon). Production during the first three months of 1950 was, on the average, 60 tons per month. Work has now started to increase the monthly production capacity to 120 tons, and it is expected that the new production capacity will have been reached by the end of August 1950.

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- e. Tuberculosis remedies. Construction plans have been completed for the production of a tuberculosis remedy. The intention is to produce 1½ tons per month using Resorcin as basic raw material. This raw material will be supplied when required by Wolfen. The present plan is to start production in the fall of 1950 and to increase production immediately to 3 tons per month.
- f. Production of "Kontakt 5058" has ceased at Leuna since February 1950.
6. Orders have been issued to reconstruct the nitric acid plant destroyed during the war. The target date for the start of production is the summer of 1950.
7. Shortages of Materials and Equipment
- a. Gas compressors. The bottleneck in compressors of 300 atmospheres and above is critical.
- b. Oxygen plant. The former bottleneck caused by the lack of "Winkler" generators has been overcome. The generators have been delivered [redacted] and are running satisfactorily. 50X1-HUM
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- c. Iron and steel. The steel embargo [redacted] is severely felt. Deliveries of plate and pipe from the USSR have helped to alleviate the situation, but these deliveries are to be used for reconstruction purposes only. Plate, pipe and electric motors are also delivered [redacted] but the irregularity of these supplies has a bad effect on production at Leuna. 50X1-HUM
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8. The power output of the Leuna power station was, during March, 1950 110,000 KWH.
9. [redacted]
10. On 1 February 1950, the K.I.B. (Konstruktions und Ingenieurbüro) was declared a V.E.B. Its last assignment under Russian control was the planning of a complete caprolactam plant for erection in the USSR. 50X1-HUM

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